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Magistrate Judge Mary Alice Theiler

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AT SEATTLE
CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

CAMERON BRANDON SHEA,
KALEB J. COLE,
TAYLOR ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE,
JOHNNY ROMAN GARZA,

Defendants.

CASE NO. *MJ20-088*

COMPLAINT for VIOLATION

Title 18, U.S.C. Section 371

BEFORE, Mary Alice Theiler, United States Magistrate Judge, U. S. Courthouse,
Seattle, Washington.

The undersigned complainant being duly sworn states:

COUNT 1
(Conspiracy to Mail Threatening
Communications and Commit Cyberstalking)

Beginning at a time unknown, but not later than November 2019, and continuing
until on or about February 5, 2020, at King County, within the Western District of
Washington, and elsewhere, CAMERON BRANDON SHEA, KALEB J. COLE,
TAYLOR ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE, and JOHNNY ROMAN GARZA, along with

1 others known and unknown, did knowingly and willfully conspire, combine, confederate,
2 and agree to commit offenses against the United States, to wit: Mailing Threatening
3 Communications, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 876(c), and
4 Stalking, in violation of title 18, United States Code, Section 2261A.

5 **A. Object of the Conspiracy**

6 1. The object of the conspiracy was for CAMERON BRANDON SHEA,
7 KALEB J. COLE, TAYLOR ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE, and JOHNNY ROMAN
8 GARZA to threaten journalists and activists, particularly Jews and other minorities, with
9 the intent to cause fear of bodily harm, harass, intimidate, and retaliate against
10 unfavorable reporting.

11 **B. Manner and Means of the Conspiracy**

12 2. It was part of the conspiracy that KALEB J. COLE and CAMERON
13 BRANDON SHEA helped to create threatening posters, which included a poster of a
14 person in a skull mask holding a Molotov cocktail in front of a house, another depicting
15 people in skull masks holding guns with the message "These People Have Names and
16 Addresses," and another littered with swastikas with the message, "We Know Where You
17 Live." All three posters contained a place for the recipient's personal information,
18 including their home address.

19 3. It was part of the conspiracy that CAMERON BRANDON SHEA, KALEB
20 J. COLE, TAYLOR ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE, and JOHNNY ROMAN GARZA
21 conducted research online to identify journalists and activists to threaten, specifically
22 targeting Jews and other minorities.

23 4. It was part of the conspiracy that CAMERON BRANDON SHEA, KALEB
24 J. COLE, TAYLOR ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE, and JOHNNY ROMAN GARZA
25 compiled the home addresses and other personal information for the above-mentioned
26 journalists and activists, using online sources.

27 5. It was part of the conspiracy that CAMERON BRANDON SHEA, KALEB
28 J. COLE, TAYLOR ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE, and JOHNNY ROMAN GARZA

1 planned and plotted to threaten the above-mentioned journalists and activists through
2 online communications among themselves and others.

3 6. It was part of the conspiracy that CAMERON BRANDON SHEA, KALEB
4 J. COLE, TAYLOR ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE, and JOHNNY ROMAN GARZA
5 agreed to mail the threatening posters to the journalists and activists, and to post the
6 posters on their residences.

7 7. It was part of the conspiracy that CAMERON BRANDON SHEA, KALEB
8 J. COLE, TAYLOR ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE, and JOHNNY ROMAN GARZA
9 took steps to hide and conceal their actions, including using an encrypted chat service and
10 wearing disguises during the operation.

11 **C. Overt Acts**

12 8. During and in furtherance of the conspiracy, at King County, within the
13 Western District of Washington, and elsewhere, one or more of the conspirators
14 committed one or more of the following overt acts, among others:

15 a. In December 2019, KALEB J. COLE helped create a collection of
16 threatening posters that were designed to threaten bodily harm, intimidate, harass, and
17 retaliate against reporters and activists, particularly Jews and other minorities.

18 b. On or about January 25, 2020, CAMERON BRANDON SHEA
19 purchased stamps and packaging tape, and mailed threatening posters to a reporter and
20 two individuals associated with the Anti-Defamation League.

21 c. On January 25, 2020, TAYLOR ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE
22 posted a threatening poster on the residence that he believed belonged to a journalist.

23 d. On or about January 25, 2020, JOHNNY ROMAN GARZA and
24 another individual affixed a threatening poster to the home of an editor of a local Jewish
25 publication.

26 All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.
27
28

1 And the complainant states that this Complaint is based on the following
2 information:

3 I, Michael Stults, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and say:

4 **INTRODUCTION**

5 1. I am a Special Agent (SA) with the FBI, currently assigned to investigate
6 domestic terrorism in the Seattle Field Office and have been so employed for two years.
7 My experience as an FBI Agent includes the investigation of cases where individuals
8 frequently utilize computers and the Internet to coordinate and facilitate various crimes. I
9 have received training and gained experience in interviewing and interrogation
10 techniques, arrest procedures, search warrant applications, the execution of searches and
11 seizures, computer evidence identification, computer evidence seizure and processing,
12 and various other criminal laws and procedures. I have personally participated in the
13 execution of search warrants involving the search and seizure of computer equipment. I
14 have received advanced training on network and information security, and on the
15 methods and tactics of open source intelligence gathering.

16 2. The facts set forth in this Affidavit are based on my own personal
17 knowledge; knowledge obtained from other individuals during my participation in this
18 investigation, including other law enforcement personnel; review of documents and
19 records related to this investigation; communications with others who have personal
20 knowledge of the events and circumstances described herein; and information gained
21 through my training and experience. Because this Affidavit is submitted for the limited
22 purpose of establishing probable cause in support of a criminal complaint, it does not set
23 forth each and every fact that I or others have learned during the course of this
24 investigation.

25 **SUMMARY OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

26 **A. Overview**

27 3. CAMERON BRANDON SHEA is a high-level member and primary
28 recruiter for the Atomwaffen Division (AWD). AWD came to the attention of law

1 enforcement on or about May 12, 2017, when D.A. was arrested for murdering two of his
2 roommates near Tampa, Florida. D.A. had been a member of AWD, as were his
3 roommates. After his arrest, D.A. admitted to the murders of his two roommates and told
4 investigators he had committed the murders after he had converted to Islam and that the
5 murders were his attempt at keeping the members of AWD from committing planned acts
6 of terror related to the group's ideology. D.A. claimed AWD had plans to use explosives
7 to damage infrastructure and to commit acts of violence.

8 4. After D.A.'s arrest, another roommate, B.R., who was the leader of AWD,
9 was encountered by law enforcement at the residence unharmed. In the residence, law
10 enforcement found bomb-making precursor chemicals and hexamethylene triperoxide
11 diamine, a high explosive chemical. B.R. admitted the chemicals were his and, on or
12 about May 20, 2017, B.R. was charged in a federal criminal complaint in Florida with a
13 violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 5861(d) (possession of an unregistered
14 destructive device) and Title 18, United States Code, Section 842(j) (unlawful storage of
15 explosive material). In addition to the explosive material found inside the residence, law
16 enforcement discovered Nazi paraphernalia, texts popular with neo-Nazis including
17 Adolf Hitler's *Mein Kampf* and *The Turner Diaries*, and, among other things, a framed
18 image of the Oklahoma City bomber, Timothy McVeigh, featured prominently in B.R.'s
19 bedroom.

20 5. Following the arrest of B.R., AWD selected J.D., a resident of Houston,
21 Texas, and KALEB J. COLE, aka Khimaere or Khim, formerly a resident of Arlington,
22 Washington, to co-lead AWD in B.R.'s absence. Members of AWD also formed a
23 relationship with a Denver, Colorado resident who is the writer of the book, "Siege,"
24 which serves as the basis for AWD ideology. The book, which is a collection of neo-
25 Nazi newsletters authored by the Colorado resident, advocates for the leaderless
26 resistance and lone offender strategies as a viable means to accelerate the collapse of the
27 United States Government, which members of the AWD believe to be controlled by Jews
28 and other minorities.

1 6. On January 25, 2018, AWD hosted a “Death Valley Hate Camp” in Las
2 Vegas, Nevada, where members trained in hand-to-hand combat, firearms, and created
3 neo-Nazi propaganda videos and pictures of themselves posing with weapons. COLE
4 coordinated the camp, beginning planning in early October 2017. COLE traveled from
5 Washington State to Las Vegas for the hate camp with another AWD member, A.B. The
6 two possessed concealed pistol licenses and transported numerous firearms and cases of
7 ammunition to the event. A California AWD member was expected to be at this hate
8 camp, but could not attend due to being arrested for the murder of an openly gay Jewish
9 college student.

10 7. Prior to YouTube removing their pages, AWD posted propaganda videos
11 on two channels called “AWDTV” and “Atomwaffen Division.” One of those videos
12 titled “Zealous Operation,” depicts a hate camp at Devil’s Tower, an abandoned cement
13 factory in Concrete, Washington. Approximately half a dozen AWD members can be
14 seen wearing military style clothing, face masks, and carrying an assortment of long
15 guns, while conducting paramilitary style training and shooting at a gravel pit attached to
16 Devil’s Tower. At the beginning of the video participants state, “*GAS THE KIKES!*
17 *RACE WAR NOW!*” while the statement is spelled out at the bottom of the screen.

18 8. On February 23, 2018, *The Seattle Times* published an article discussing
19 AWD, and identifying several of its members nationwide, to include some in Washington
20 State. Photographs, along with personally identifiable information, including home and
21 work addresses, were included in the article. The article also discussed the application
22 Discord that members used to facilitate communication. According to the article, several
23 thousand pages of Discord chat logs between members were hacked and leaked to the
24 public. After having been identified, several of the AWD members, to include those in
25 leadership positions, deleted their online profiles, quit their jobs, changed residences, and
26 moved to the Swiss-based, encrypted electronic communication service Wire, in an
27 attempt to go dark and avoid detection by law enforcement. COLE was one of the AWD
28 members identified in this article, but SHEA’s involvement in the group was not

1 reported.

2 9. On or about September 16, 2018, COLE posted a recorded leadership
3 message to AWD members via Wire. In the recording, COLE said, *"The matter of these*
4 *nosy reporters coming into our daily lives, where we work, where we live, where we go in*
5 *our spare time. We must simply approach them with nothing but pure aggression. We*
6 *cannot let them think that they can just... that that it's safe for them to just come up to us,*
7 *and fuck with us. We cannot let them think they are safe in our very presence alone...."*

8 The statement was in response to an incident where a journalist confronted an AWD
9 member at a music festival in Texas for the *"Documenting Hate"* news series.

10 10. In addition to COLE, investigation into the group had identified Krokodil
11 as a Washington based member who was the primary recruiter for AWD. Krokodil was
12 also active in other online forums such as Gab and FascistForge.com, where he espoused
13 racial violence, and stated how he and other members could *"go full McVeigh and start*
14 *dispatching political and economic targets today, helping build the social tension that*
15 *will accelerate the collapse of the system."* Krokodil had also been planning to attend a
16 November 2018 AWD Hate Camp being held in western Washington State, but was
17 ultimately unable to attend due to medical reasons. Investigation later positively
18 identified the user of the Krokodil moniker was SHEA based on physical surveillance,
19 video recordings, and records demonstrating ownership of his phone number.

20 11. On July 9, 2019, COLE was interviewed by the FBI when he was deported
21 from Canada to the United States. During the interview, COLE blamed the media for
22 sensationalizing information about AWD and expressed dismay as to why he was
23 targeted by the media in their stories, and lamented how he was never approached in an
24 attempt to collect accurate information. COLE felt the media's reporting of AWD being
25 a threat to the public was *"internet nonsense."*

26 12. In August of 2019, leadership members of AWD attended a "Nuclear
27 Congress" in Las Vegas, Nevada, where members gave presentations, discussed recent
28 events, challenges, plans going forward, and operational security. SHEA discussed the

1 importance of keeping identity protected, and how the media continues to be a challenge
2 to AWD.

3 13. On September 26, 2019, COLE was served with an Extreme Risk
4 Protection Order (ERPO) by the Seattle Police Department (SPD). SPD and Arlington
5 Police Department officers seized nine firearms in COLE's possession, as well as a
6 number of unfinished lower rifle receivers, capable of being milled into functional rifle
7 components with the equipment COLE owned. In the wake of the ERPO service, several
8 news outlets nationwide covered the event. SHEA, COLE, and other AWD members
9 discussed media coverage of the event, with one member suggesting to "*hit back...
10 embarrass the enemy on their own front.*" COLE then left Washington State and
11 resettled in Texas.

12 14. On November 4, 2019, COLE and A.B. were stopped by law enforcement
13 for speeding in Post, Texas while on their way to meet with an AWD member, near
14 Houston, Texas. A.B. was subsequently arrested for 18 USC 922 (g)(3) (Possession of a
15 Firearm by an Unlawful User of a Controlled Substance). Law enforcement seized four
16 firearms and approximately 2000 rounds of ammunition. COLE continued to the
17 Houston area to meet with the AWD member.

18 **B. Operation Erste Säule**

19 **1. The Planning**

20 15. In or about November 2019, SHEA, using the moniker Krokodil,
21 participated in a private Wire chat group titled, Operation Erste Säule.¹ SHEA invited
22 coconspirators to this chat group to collaborate and coordinate an effort to deliver
23 threatening messages to journalists' homes and media buildings. SHEA described the
24 Operation in a message to the chat group: "*We're coordinating this nation wide
25 Operation called Operation Erste Säule, named after the first pillar of stat[e] power,*
26

27
28 ¹ Based on publicly available translation services, "Erste Säule" translates from German
to English as "First Pillar."

1 *AKA the media. We will be posterizing journalists houses and media buildings to send a*
 2 *clear message that we too have leverage over them . . . The goal, of course, is to erode*
 3 *the media/states air of legitimacy by showing people that they have names and addresses,*
 4 *and hopefully embolden others to act as well."*

5 16. Other participants in the Operation Erste Säule chat group included COLE
 6 (then based in the Houston, Texas area who used Wire name "पकजबतचषथबल"); an
 7 individual in the Cleveland, Ohio area who used Wire name "14ALG88"; TAYLOR
 8 ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE, an individual who lives in Florida and used the Wire
 9 name "Azazel"; an individual in California who used Wire name "OldScratch";
 10 JOHNNY ROMAN GARZA, an individual in the Phoenix, Arizona area who used the
 11 Wire name "Roman"; an individual in Florida who used the Wire name "Lazarus"; an
 12 unidentified individual believed to be in Oregon using Wire name that appears as
 13 "☒☒☒☒☒"; an individual in South Carolina who used the Wire name
 14 "Swissdiscipline"; and others.

15 17. Based on a review of the group's Wire chats, COLE and SHEA were the
 16 primary organizers for Operation Erste Säule. COLE had access to the entire target list,
 17 helped to develop threatening posters to leave at the victims' homes, and made
 18 suggestions to Operation Erste Säule coconspirators on who to target, how to find
 19 people's home addresses, and, among other things, how to film the Operation when it
 20 happened. SHEA, in addition to announcing the Operation, coordinated its various
 21 stages, including address collection, poster creation, and ultimate execution.

22 18. As part of Operation Erste Säule, each participant was directed to identify,
 23 research, and locate journalists in their area. "OldScratch" recommended using the
 24 website <https://www.spj.org/fdb-list.asp> to pick targets; that website is for the Society of
 25 Professional Journalists and contains a list of journalists and their contact information.
 26 "Lazarus" reported that he had three targets, and one was Jewish. "14ALG88" advised
 27 that he was targeting three Jews. GARZA said he had found "*a leader of an 'association*
 28 *of black journalists*" in his state. SHEA stated that the identification of these targets was

1 “*Excellent work!*” and “*Outstanding.*” Similarly, COLE said “*NICE WORK*” when he
2 learned that “14ALG88” had found the addresses for three Jewish journalists.

3 19. On or about December 11, 2019, during a discussion to coordinate
4 Operation Erste Säule, SHEA explained that he wanted to coordinate the Operation on
5 the same night so journalists would be caught off guard, and to accomplish an effective
6 “*show of force, demonstrating we are capable of massive coordination.*” GARZA said
7 that the intended impact of the coordinated Operation was to “*have them all wake up one*
8 *morning and find themselves terrorized by targeted propaganda.*” COLE also suggested
9 buying rag dolls and knives so that participants could leave a doll knifed through the head
10 at their target locations.

11 20. On or about December 11, 2019, during a Wire discussion to coordinate
12 Operation Erste Säule, COLE reminded the coconspirators to film their execution of the
13 Operation: “*so when you guys film clips for this project: Be sure to film your clips*
14 *horizontally (landscape), not vertical (portrait).*”

15 21. On or about December 11, 2019, during a Wire discussion to coordinate
16 Operation Erste Säule, COLE told his coconspirators that the group was working on
17 getting more addresses and the posters. COLE suggested that his coconspirators conduct
18 reconnaissance of their victims’ addresses and suggested searching their addresses in
19 Google maps. COLE told his coconspirators to use, “*proper electronic opsec measures,*”
20 which I believe describes an effort to anonymize or privatize online actions to obfuscate
21 activity and avoid law-enforcement detection.

22 22. On or about December 18, 2019, during a Wire discussion to coordinate
23 Operation Erste Säule, the coconspirators discussed how to print the propaganda posters.
24 “14ALG88” said that he may have trouble printing the posters at the library and COLE
25 told him to consider buying a cheap printer on Craigslist. SHEA added that printers cost
26 as little as \$20 or \$40. GARZA emphasized that, “[t]his Operation does deserve a
27 decent printer.” During this conversation about printing the threatening posters, COLE
28 cautioned everyone to “*be sure to ONLY print in black and white*” to avoid leaving

1 evidence behind. COLE explained: *“make sure everything is printed in black and white,*
 2 *so metadata won’t show up (the tiny yellow dots that indicate information about the*
 3 *printer.”*

4 23. Later, “Old Scratch” told the Wire group that one of his targets was very far
 5 from him and that he was considering mailing the threatening posters, *“if that’s*
 6 *acceptable.”* GARZA added that his targets were also far away and, in an apparent
 7 reference to the infamous Unabomber, that the *“mail idea should not be wasted . . .*
 8 *Unapropagandist.”* SHEA emphasized operational security to anyone who decided to
 9 mail the threatening posters in order to avoid detection by the FBI. Specifically, SHEA
 10 told his coconspirators to *“buy your stamps in another town with cash while wearing a*
 11 *disguise lol[.] And utilize a mailbox with no cameras nearby, post office = big no no[.]*
 12 *And wear medical gloves when handling all materials, make sure both the destination*
 13 *and return address (if you’re dumb enough to add one) are printed on paper and cut out*
 14 *+ taped onto envelope, no hand writing allowed.; when sealing the envelope, use a q-tip*
 15 *dipped in water instead of your tongue, unless you want the FBI to have your DNA.”*

16 24. On or about December 25, 2019, during a Wire discussion to coordinate
 17 Operation Erste Säule, COLE explained that he was going to distribute the threatening
 18 posters via “Guerrilla Mail” with the subject line, *“prop-run.”* Guerrilla Mail is an
 19 electronic communication service accessible via internet-connected devices that offers
 20 temporary, disposable e-mail accounts. On or about December 26, 2019, COLE
 21 confirmed via Wire that everyone involved in the Operation had received their
 22 propaganda posters. Around the same time, PARKER-DIPEPPE confirmed that he and
 23 “Lazarus” were working together, with “Lazarus” as the leader and PARKER-DIPEPPE
 24 as the *“second.”* Then, GARZA asked when they were going to execute the Operation.
 25 Over the next week, SHEA, COLE, “Lazarus,” GARZA, PARKER-DIPEPPE, “Old
 26 Scratch”, “☒☒☒☒☒,” and others continued to coordinate a date to execute Operation
 27 Erste Säule. Ultimately, the participants agreed to carry out the Operation on January 25,
 28 2020.

25. On or about December 27, 2019, GARZA told the group via Wire that he was, “*scoping my places on maps right now.*” That prompted a conversation among the coconspirators about avoiding detection when executing the Operation. GARZA suggested using a disguise to blend into the neighborhood, such as wearing construction gear or posing as a “*mail deliverer,*” or to execute the Operation at night. As for targets in gated communities, GARZA suggested “*check[ing] it out irl [in real life] or on the maps, you should be able to spot mounted cameras. If they aren’t around the gate then its almost no big deal to find a wall to hop.*” SHEA added that he planned to use a bicycle instead of his car to approach his targets in order “*to avoid license plate captures.*” During a later chat, SHEA warned his coconspirators to be careful and look for any security cameras, and PARKER-DIPEPPE advised, “*Be very cautious of the surrounding and use google maps if possible to search around.*”

26. On or about January 6, 2020, during a Wire discussion to coordinate Operation Erste Säule, the coconspirators again coordinated the Operation and exchanged opinions about whether to conduct the Operation entirely via the mail, rather than in person. Ultimately, the coconspirators decided to stay with “*boots on the ground*” at some locations, while mailing the threatening posters to the riskier target locations, as shown in the below exchange:

“Lazarus”: Hm Well it’s less threatening if we just mail them.

PARKER-DIPEPPE: Honestly not a bad idea but I like the dangerous side more

“Lazarus”: But I do see the whole safety thing[.] I say, the night of posters before we put up any we check the house for security and etc, if the house has to much security we mail them but if it doesn’t have a lot and we can get by with our masks then we put the posters up

1 SHEA: What I don't want happening is one of you boys being
2 caught, that's my main concern
3

4 "Lazarus": We know, but you also have to understand we all know what
5 we signed up for[.] So I say we go threw with the plan but if a
6 house has to much security we mail that poster to that house.
7

8 PARKER-DIPEPPE: It will look suspicious especially on me and Lazs end
9 driving with a New Jersey plated car and parking somewhere
10 random[.] However we've gotten away with it in the past too.
11

12 ...
13

14 "Lazarus": ... Worse case we mail the poster[.] My point is if we want to
15 send a message it would look better if we put that poster up[.]
16 Mailing them yes seems effective enough, but it doesn't send
17 a bigger and greater message then actually putting up a poster
18 at someone's house
19

20 PARKER-DIPEPPE: Agreed
21

22 GARZA: I think the locations with the most possible security concerns
23 could be mail targets, but those locations that look much less
24 secure can be visited . . . It's not like they're expecting us in
25 person. If they all receive some shit in the mail consecutively,
26 it'll draw the same stir. Maybe not as novel as a physical visit
27 with a poster on their front window, but in the 'scare range'
28 just the same.

1 SHEA: Seems like a good plan, then. Greater security = mail, less =
2 poster.

3
4 ...

5
6 “[REDACTED]”: One of my locations is the headquarters of the new station in
7 my city, so I should mail it yeah? I could add some ‘personal’
8 touches to make it special.

9
10 ...

11
12 SHEA: News station? You could mail it or post it up. I’d say posting
13 it on public establishments is less risky than houses.

14
15 “[REDACTED]”: Got it

16 27. On or about January 7, 2020, SHEA addressed the illegal nature of the
17 Operation and told his coconspirators via Wire: *“If we are arrested later in connection to*
18 *the Operation, but they can’t prove we specifically did it, fedwaffen’s open sourcing of*
19 *the AW brand name gives us plausible deniability...And since we have JM’s disavowal of*
20 *fedwaffen on the website, saying we disavow illegal action, that further helps our point*
21 *that fedwaffen was behind this.”* As part of its investigation into the AWD, the FBI
22 knows that “fedwaffen” is a reference to a faction of unknown individuals who have, in
23 recent months, posted AWD videos and propaganda online claiming to be AWD.
24 Members of the real AWD, however, have disavowed this new unsanctioned faction and
25 all its communications.

26 28. As described above, COLE has mentioned multiple times during the Wire
27 chats for Operation Erste Säule that he was designing and creating the threatening posters
28 that the coconspirators would use. For example, SHEA told the coconspirators that

1 COLE *“is developing a number of posters that are threatening but not explicitly.”* And,
2 over the course of multiple days, COLE stated he planned to *“finish up the posters here*
3 *sometime tomorrow,”* then *“okay guys, I have finished the bulk of address posters,”* and,
4 finally, that he had *“sent the posters out”* to coconspirators’ e-mail addresses. When
5 talking about the posters, COLE added that he had been *“having issues with my linux*
6 *machine.”* Based on my training and experience, I understand a “linux machine” to be a
7 personal computer using the linux operating system.

8 29. As part of this investigation, the FBI has obtained the draft posters that the
9 AWD considered using during Operation Erste Säule. All of the posters contain
10 threatening statements and insinuations, indicating that the targets are under surveillance
11 and at risk from the AWD, and the draft posters contained a blank area at the bottom
12 designated for the coconspirators to add a victim’s address. Based on the group’s own
13 statements, COLE’s prior statements about media intimidation, and the nature of
14 Operation Erste Säule, I believe that the coconspirators intended for the following posters
15 to intimidate, threaten, and cause substantial emotional distress to the group’s targets.

16 30. One of the posters features four swastikas, a drawing of a person with press
17 credentials around his neck, anonymous figures behind him holding guns, and it says,
18 “Death to Pigs,” “Two can play at this game,” “These people have names and addresses,”
19 and “You have been visited by your local Nazis.”
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28

**TWO CAN PLAY
AT THIS GAME**



**THESE PEOPLE HAVE
NAMES AND ADDRESSES**



YOU HAVE BEEN VISITED BY YOUR LOCAL NAZIS

31. Another poster shows an anonymous figure wearing a mask and holding a Molotov cocktail, and it says, "Your actions have consequences[,] our patience has its limits" and "You have been visited by your local Nazis."

**YOUR ACTIONS
HAVE CONSEQUENCES**



**OUR PATIENCE
HAS ITS LIMITS**



YOU HAVE BEEN VISITED BY YOUR LOCAL NAZIS

32. Another features three swastikas and says, “We are watching[.] We are no one[.] We are everyone[.] We know where you live[.] Do not fuck with us[.]” At the very bottom of the poster are the words “You have been visited by your local Nazis.”

WE ARE
WATCHING
WE ARE NO ONE
WE ARE
EVERYONE
WE KNOW
WHERE YOU LIVE
DO NOT FUCK WITH US



YOU HAVE BEEN VISITED BY YOUR LOCAL NAZIS

33. At various points during the Wire chats for Operation Erste Säule, the coconspirators described why they want to carry out the planned campaign of threats. SHEA told coconspirators that COLE was making posters designed to be *“threatening, but not explicitly.”* Later, GARZA told the group, *“I believe that if we smash this, we can reap the reward of a nationwide scare,”* to which “Old Scratch” responded, *“Damn right bro.”* GARZA also said that the Operation will *“have them all wake up one morning and find themselves terrorized by targeted propaganda.”* And, among other things, COLE said the campaign was to *“intimidate”* and make journalists fear the AWD: *“if there isn’t*

1 *any coverage[] its because they don't want to bring more heat upon themselves, or fellow*
 2 *journos. aiding to their fear of us."*

3 34. On or about January 22, 2020, SHEA informed all participants of the
 4 Operation Erste Säule chat group that the Wire chat would be ending soon. In response,
 5 COLE stated: "*All I can say is get a few good video clips if you can.*" Finally, SHEA
 6 reminded everyone to avoid getting caught, and suggested that if they did get caught to
 7 plead the Fifth Amendment and remind their lawyers of the "fedwaffen" defense
 8 described above. The Wire chat group then closed.

9 35. The FBI notified intended victims of the plot in advance, to the extent the
 10 victims could be identified.

11 **2. The Events in Washington State**

12 36. On January 25, 2020, law enforcement conducted surveillance of SHEA
 13 and observed him driving his vehicle to Redmond, Washington, and park in a Target
 14 parking lot. SHEA then changed into a grey hoodie, stocking cap, and a surgical
 15 facemask. SHEA proceeded to walk across the street into a Fred Meyer store where he
 16 purchased a book of Santa Claus stamps and packaging tape with cash. Based on my
 17 training, experience, and knowledge of the investigation, I believe SHEA was
 18 obfuscating his appearance, consistent with the operational security measures mentioned
 19 above.

20 37. On January 29, 2020, the FBI was contacted by a Seattle reporter who has
 21 reported on AWD, and an employee of the Anti-Defamation League's Pacific Northwest
 22 Regional Office.² Both had received posters in the mail. The reporter had received the
 23 poster that is titled, "Two Can Play At This Game," and included the reporter's name, his
 24 home address, and his cell phone number. The Anti-Defamation League employee had
 25 received a poster titled, "Your Actions Have Consequences," and included their home
 26 address. The envelopes in which the posters arrived were both addressed by affixing cut-

27
 28 ² The Anti-Defamation League's mission is to combat anti-Semitism and other forms of hatred and bigotry.

1 out, printed addresses with packaging tape, akin to the procedure SHEA described above.
2 The envelopes also both included Santa Claus stamps.

3 38. On February 5, 2020, the Seattle Police Department was contacted by a
4 former employee of the Anti-Defamation League's Pacific Northwest Regional Office.
5 The former employee had recently returned from vacation, and located in the mail the
6 poster titled, "We Are Watching," which included the former employee's name and
7 address at the bottom. The envelope the poster arrived in was postmarked January 27,
8 2020, and was mailed with a Santa Claus stamp.

9 **3. The Events in Florida**

10 36. On January 24, 2020, law enforcement conducted surveillance of TAYLOR
11 ASHLEY Parker-Dieppe, who agents had previously identified as being Azazel. Agents
12 observed PARKER-DIPEPPE leave his residence in a white 2014 Hyundai Accent.
13 PARKER-DIPEPPE traveled with a female and was wearing a black t-shirt, jeans, and
14 boots.

15 37. The two arrived at a Goodwill Springhill Super Store in Spring Hill,
16 Florida. They purchased a tan baseball hat, a hooded sweatshirt, yellow in color with
17 what appeared to be black lettering on the front, and a pair of black sunglasses. The two
18 then visited the Spring Hill Walmart. They purchased a pack of Gorilla Tape
19 mounting tape squares. PARKER-DIPEPPE paid for both transactions using a debit card.

20 38. On January 25, 2020, PARKER-DIPEPPE and the female were observed
21 leaving the residence above at approximately 8:30 p.m. They drove towards Tampa and
22 arrived at an apartment complex in Tampa. PARKER-DIPEPPE dropped off the female
23 and picked up a male in Saint Petersburg, Florida.

24 39. Agents observed PARKER-DIPEPPE and the male entering a Saint
25 Petersburg Walmart late in the evening. The male purchased a sweater and black
26 Avia pants. Both PARKER-DIPEPPE and the male exited the Walmart and then drove
27 back to Tampa.
28

1 40. Agents then observed PARKER-DIPEPPE and the male drive to a Tampa
2 residence. The two affixed a poster to the front of the residence, immediately below a
3 bedroom window. The two then ran back to their vehicle and drove away. The poster
4 had been affixed using mounting tape squares, *i.e.*, the same type of tape that PARKER-
5 DIPEPPE had purchased at Walmart.

6 41. The poster was the “We Are Watching” poster that is identified above. The
7 poster included the name and home address of a Florida news reporter who was born and
8 raised in Puerto Rico.

9 42. The reporter did not live at the residence. It appears that PARKER-
10 DIPEPPE and the male had the wrong address. An individual, who is black, lived at the
11 residence with her father and minor child. The individual saw the poster.

12 **4. The Events in Arizona**

13 43. On January 25, 2020, law enforcement conducted surveillance of JOHNNY
14 ROMAN GARZA, also known as Roman, in the Queen Creek, Arizona area. GARZA
15 was picked up by an individual in a maroon Ford Taurus. Shortly after midnight, the
16 vehicle was parked near an apartment complex in Phoenix, Arizona where a member of
17 the Arizona Association of Black Journalists resided. At least one of the vehicle
18 occupants exited the vehicle. The occupant returned to the vehicle, and the vehicle
19 proceeded to the residence of an editor of a local Jewish publication. Both GARZA and
20 the other individual were observed fleeing from the direction of the residence to the
21 vehicle. The two left the scene, and the individual dropped Garza off at his residence.

22 44. The editor found a poster titled, “Your Actions Have Consequences” that
23 included the editor’s name and home address at the bottom. The poster was glued to a
24 bedroom window, on the north side of the editor’s home.

25 //

26 //

27 //

CONCLUSION

45. Based on the foregoing, I respectfully submit that there is probable cause to believe that CAMERON BRANDON SHEA, KALEB J. COLE, TAYLOR ASHLEY PARKER-DIPEPPE, and JOHNNY ROMAN GARZA did commit the crime of conspiracy, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.



Michael Stults, Complainant
Special Agent, FBI

Based on the Complaint and Affidavit sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence, the Court hereby finds that there is probable cause to believe the Defendants committed the offense set forth in the Complaint.

Dated this 25 day of February, 2020.



MARY ALICE THEILER
United States Magistrate Judge